



ALLIANCE RIFLE CLUB

Alliance, Nebraska



60th Anniversary

May 1949 -- May 2009



Know All Men By These Presents... that
Alliance Rifle Club
having fulfilled the requirements for membership has been enrolled by
THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA
as an Affiliated Class A Club subject to the continued compliance
of the Club with the provisions of the By-Laws and Regulations
now in effect and or hereafter adopted by the Association.



Given under my hand and the seal of
the Association at Washington, D.C.
this 26 day of May A.D. 19 49

J. L. Wynn
Secretary
THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



ALLIANCE RIFLE CLUB

Alliance Rifle Club of Alliance, Nebraska was formed May 26, 1949 and has been an active club ever since. From the beginning Alliance Rifle Club has been affiliated with the National Rifle Association.

History of Highlights and Honors for Alliance Rifle Club and Members

May 26, 1949

Alliance Rifle Club formed in Alliance, Nebraska.

The club was started with 11 members who were interested in smallbore rifle competition. Members were taking part in the Panhandle Rifle League which was formed in the mid 1940s. In the beginning it consisted of two divisions—the Northern and the Southern. Smallbore Rifle Matches consisted of 10 shots each at prone, sitting, kneeling and off-hand for a total possible score of 400. The top five scores in each position are combined to make the team score.

The Northern Division was made up of teams from Crawford, Hemingford, Alliance, Ellsworth and Ashby. The Southern Division had teams from Scottsbluff, Sidney, Bridgeport, Bayard, Lyman, McGrew, Harrison and Ft. Laramie, Wyoming. The Divisions consolidated in the early 1970s.

Alliance Rifle Club has competed as a team in the Panhandle Rifle League every year since the formation of the club.

The Indoor Range at the Airport Range started out as a surplus building on Hanger Line Road at the then newly deactivated Alliance Air Base. It was used as a stable for the military based in Alliance during WWII.

1954

The ARC has had a smallbore team shooting in the Panhandle Rifle League since the 1940's. Glen Fiebig starts shooting as a mem-

ber of the team. Around 1978 he becomes the team captain and serves as captain until the late 1990s. He was still a member of the team for the 2001-02 Season.

1964

Glen Fiebig elected secretary/treasurer and also handles all the membership duties. He handles memberships until October 10, 1985 and serves as secretary/treasurer until January 2004.

1967

Glen Fiebig is selected to represent the state in “the Super Bowl of the shooting sports” after competing in tryouts that were held state-wide.

1975

As of March, the membership of the Alliance Rifle Club is 48 members.

A group of 57 men and women meet with Congresswoman Virginia Smith at the Drake Hotel April 2 to discuss firearms legislation pending in the U.S. Congress. A big blizzard hit the area just before the meeting and all travel was shut off for two days and then there was a big snow the day before the meeting.

This meeting is sponsored and promoted by the Alliance Rifle Club.

Mrs. Smith makes a second visit to Alliance July 14, 1976 to meet with interested people for more discussion on gun legislation.

1976

Membership fee to ARC is \$12.00 a year and there are 60 members. Besides rifle shooting, the Club also promotes pistol shooting and muzzleloading.

1979

Benchrest matches started around 1979 at the outdoor Airport Range with the Alliance Team taking part in the Transcontinental League with team competition in both the American Conference and the National Conference.

1980

From 1975 until about 1981 Alliance shoots in the Panhandle Rifle League (Indoor Smallbore Rifle 4-Position) as “Northwest” Team. During this time five men from Crawford shoot along with the Alliance members. February 10, 1975 the Northwest Rifle Club receives a Senior Club Charter from the National Rifle Association.

The January 3 match is a good team total for the “Northwest” Team—1951 out of a possible 2000. Top five scores in each of the four positions (prone, sitting, kneeling and offhand) are combined to get the team score. On this night “Northwest” has 18 members posting scores.

At this time the League consisted of teams from Northwest, Scottsbluff, McGrew, Sidney, Ft. Laramie and Lyman.

1982

The ARC leases land to use for shooting matches. This is the start of Hoffland Range. At first there is some Muzzleloading competition, NRA Rifle Silhouette Matches and IHMSA Pistol Silhouette Matches.

1983

This is the first year Highpower Rifle Matches are held at Hoffland. Four matches are run at a range of 100 yds. with the first one June 5.

Smallbore Outdoor Position matches are held again in 1983. These are 50 yd. matches at the Airport Range.

During the summer, Club Shooting Day is held on Thursdays from 3 p.m. to dark at the Airport Range. This has been done for the past couple of years and Club events such as Hunter Benchrest, Outdoor Smallbore and other competitions are enjoyed by Club members.

1984

First “Doc & The Judge” Match held in July in connection with Alliance’s “Heritage Days,” a community celebration of the founding of the town in 1888. Promoted by Dr. Wendell Fairbanks and Judge Glen Fiebig. This is an “early days” match and rifles must be chambered for cartridges in existence in 1888.

The first “Doc & The Judge” was designed for Trapdoor Springfields, the Service rifle of the day in 1888. Match 1 and Match 2 were Trapdoor and Match 3 was the aggregate of Match 1 and 2.

It was held each year during the July Gun Show until 1990 when it was moved to the Fall Gun Show. The last “Doc & The Judge” Match was held September 29, 2002.

The Panhandle Rifle League now has teams shooting for Alliance, Crawford, Ft. Laramie, Lyman, McGrew, Scottsbluff and Sidney.

1985

Alliance Rifle Club is incorporated.

Alliance Rifle Club Newsletter starts with an issue of March 1985 with Gene and Janice Rader as editors. Six issues were mailed to members during 1985. In March 1986 the name of the newsletter was changed to *Panhandle Shooting News*. There were 33 issues published from then until January 1994.

Issue 34 was sent out May 1994 with Jim Ford as editor. Ford is the newsletter editor until 1997.

Don Sheldon became editor with the March 1997 issue. He was editor until January 2002—putting out No. 1 through No. 16 of *Panhandle Shooting News*.

Vickie Hielscher became editor after that and put out issues No. 17 through No. 25. The last issue was May 2005. From that time on the Alliance Rifle Club web site has been used for posting scores, calendars, news, photos and information.

Target shooting clinics held every Thursday evening during April and May at the Indoor Range. NRA films on smallbore rifle position shooting are shown plus Lanny Bassham Mental Management tapes are played. Position practice with .22 rifles is held to learn fundamentals. Six sessions are held with an average of 12 students.

Benchrest competition held the first Thursday of May, June, July and August from 4 p.m. to dark at the Outdoor Airport Range. Club members take part in the Hunter Rifle Transcontinental League.

ARC sponsors a postal league during the summer for smallbore rifle 4-position shooting. (Each match—10 shots prone, sitting, kneeling and standing.) Targets were mailed out to each registered shooter and they were required to shoot six matches and return their targets to ARC for scoring.

First year of the Summer League—50 yd. 4-position smallbore rifle postal matches. ARC took the league over from another Club. This first year a total of 24 shooters register for the Summer League from Nebraska, Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Wyoming and South Dakota.

By the summer of 1987 there are 40 shooters signed up to compete in the Summer League.

June 14 Dr. Robert Smith of Cheyenne, Wyoming gives a talk on the workings of the NRA at the Elks Club with 37 people attending. Dr. Smith is a member of the Board of Directors of the NRA. He is a patron member of the NRA and a NRA Referee.

In July Dr. Wendell Fairbanks and Glen Fiebig compete in the NRA Highpower Championships at Camp Perry.

The Nebraska State NRA Highpower Rifle Silhouette Match was held at Hoffland August 31 and September 1. First state match held at the Hoffland Range. Bill Denny, Omaha, State Champion and Bob Grier, Alliance, Runnerup. A covered shelter was built behind the firing line before the match to offer some shade for competitors and spectators. Cost of the shelter is \$1957.00.

Special Board meeting held October 10 to draw up a five year plan. Top of the list is to improve the Indoor Range at the Airport Range. Number two is to get electricity at Hoffland Range. Most of the planning and funding will go to improve Hoffland. Janice Rader was appointed the first Membership and Records Director to help Glen Fiebig who had been doing all the memberships. It is also decided to add a second Gun Show sometime in February 1986.

November 1 Club purchases 18 3/4 acres about 10 miles east of Alliance for \$6000.00. This is the start of Hoffland Range. It is named after a town that used to be located in the area where potash was processed in the early part of the 20th century. Last payment made in 1989.

Hoffland Range was first designed with berms and target stands to do NRA (National Rifle Association) Rifle Silhouette and IHMSA (International Handgun Metallic Silhouette Association) Pistol Silhouette Matches.

December 12 Wendell Fairbanks goes to Sequin, Texas to attend a one-on-one course of individual instruction on Mental Management by Lanny Bassham

December 24 drawing for raffle of a Remington Model 700, BDL Varmint Heavy Barrel Rifle. The raffle is held to raise money for improvements at the Indoor Range.

A new furnace and exhaust are added to the Indoor Range. Cost of \$1410.66. Before this time the only heat was a small gas stove in the prep room. Windows were added between the firing line and prep room.

1986

January 11 Steve Zinsmaster, Lincoln, Nebraska, conducts a shooting seminar for 28 shooters from Alliance and the Panhandle.

Zinmaster holds a High Master classification in highpower rifle shooting. There are only about 500 civilian shooters in the U.S. to hold this classification. He was a member of the 16 person Palma Match team representing the U.S. at the 1985 Palma Match held at the Bisley Range in England—a match won by the U.S. Team.

NRA appoints Dr. Wendell Fairbanks to National Black Powder Committee.

Tom Dickensheets gets an Official "Screamer," March 2 at the Cactus Classic Benchrest Match at Phoenix, Arizona in the heavy varmint class, 200 yds. Tom shot a .171 five shot group to get his "Screamer."

According to the *Precision Shooting* magazine, there were only six screamer groups in the nation up to this date.

April 12 was the first time the Club sponsors an Action Pistol Match at the Outdoor Airport Range.

June 1 the first 100 yd. NRA Outdoor Smallbore Rifle Prone Match is held at Hoffland with 16 competitors. (60 shots for a 600 possible score.) Steven Roach, Laramie, Wyoming, won the match with a 597-38X score.

Wendell Fairbanks competes in the NRA Highpower Regional Championships at Whittington Center, Raton, New Mexico June 14. He took 1st in 300 yd. prone rapid fire, 2nd in sitting rapid fire at 200 yds and 3rd in 600 yd. prone slow fire.

Gene Ducker, ARC Junior Director makes trip to Camp Perry with Ted Flack, Scott Ducker, Rusty Kendle and Wade Kendle.

Alliance Rifle Club Benchrest Team shoots in two postal leagues. Teams competing were from Missouri, Colorado, Louisiana, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Maine, Ohio, Illinois, Washington, Montana, Arkansas, Texas, New Mexico and Nevada.

Bob Grier competes at the New Mexico State Rifle Silhouette Championships July 12 and 13 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He takes 1st AAA Aggregate.

Leon Dent, from Chadron and member of the Alliance Rifle Club, is the 1986 Nebraska State Champion in Smallbore Rifle Silhouettes. Scored 59 out of 80 to win the match.

Glen Fiebig attends NRA Training Counselor Workshop in Kansas City, Missouri August 20-23. The program trains persons who could, in turn, train NRA Instructors.

Tim Kollars is the Non-Resident 4-Gun Aggregate Champion at the September 13 and 14 South Dakota State IHMSA Pistol Silhouette Championships with highest total score at the match.

A train car is moved into position on Hoffland Range so it adjoins the shelter behind the firing line. This will be used as a Stat/Club house.

During 1987 it is jacked up and leveled and steps added. New windows installed and everything cleaned up.

Later on a box car was placed in position behind this train car. It is used for storing club equipment.

1987

February 7 ARC hosts the "Western Division" of the Nebraska State Junior Olympic Rifle Championship (JORC) for the first time in Alliance. Thirty-six juniors compete with Rusty Kendle, Alliance No. 1 State and Billy Dillon, Hemingford No. 1 Junior Olympic.

Bob Grier is match winner of the Highpower portion of the Kansas State Highpower and Smallbore Rifle Silhouette Championships. He also took first place AAA Class in the smallbore competition.

Leon Dent, Chadron, is the Colorado State Smallbore Rifle Silhouette Champion. Member of Alliance Rifle Club.

Wendell Fairbanks takes first place in Marksman Class at the 1987 Nebraska State Highpower Rifle Championships.

First NRA Dewar Match June 14 at Hoffland. A Dewar is an all prone match with 40 shots at 50 yds. and 40 shots at 100 yds. with smallbore rifles.

Largest smallbore rifle match held at Hoffland to this date. Nineteen shooters compete. The 40 shots of the 50 yds. relay was finished and 20 rds. of the 100 yd. portion were done when a thunder, lightning and rain storm hit. So match was scored on a total of 600. Janice Rader was Match Winner with 592-31X.

Juniors make second trip to Camp Perry. Juniors attending are Rusty Kendle, Wade Kendle, Lance Mays, Scott Ducker and Brandy Ducker. Accompanied by Gene Ducker and Bob Pickering, Alliance Rifle Club Junior Directors. Rusty Kendle won first place in a trap shoot held for juniors and also took first place in his class during the Junior Smallbore Camp.

Wendell Fairbanks also went to shoot in the Highpower Rifle Matches at Camp Perry.

The first 80 rd. NRA Smallbore Rifle Silhouette Match held August 16. Leon Dent became the first shooter to get a ten-in-a-row in smallbore rifle silhouette at Hoffland—hitting 10 pigs during the first 40 rd. Match. After the match he shot for his string, getting a total of 14 pigs.

August 15 and 16 the South Dakota IHMSA Pistol Silhouette Championship Big Bore Aggregate Non-Resident winner is Tim Kollars.

Hoffland improvements include well and electricity. A flagpole is installed at the top of the hill so range flag can be seen whenever shooting is taking place.

The pistol silhouette firing line was moved back to the same location as the rifle silhouette line so there is now a common firing line. A raised firing berm was built across the full width of the firing line. For the Pistol Silhouette Matches, 16 shooting benches were built.

ARC holds Nebraska State IHMSA Big Bore Pistol Silhouette Championship September 26 and 27. Biggest championship held by Club to this date with 55 shooters from three states shooting a total of 136 guns. Unlimited Resident Champion is Tim Kollars.

Lones Wigger, Olympic gold medal winner, holds a Shooting Clinic December 6 at the ARC Indoor Range. From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. he gave a slide lecture to 45 adults and juniors. Then from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. he gave individual coaching to anyone wishing his help with smallbore rifle shooting.

Memberships: Growth of Club Membership from 1985 with 159 family memberships, 188 in 1986 and in 1987 it grew to 202 family memberships plus 24 Junior memberships.

1988

Club receives word that the Alliance Rifle Club was the NRA's Outstanding Club for 1987. National competition with 62 clubs applying for the award.

The Snake Creek Snuffers, a Muzzleloading Club, consolidates with the Alliance Rifle Club.

Start of a new program at the Airport Indoor Range. ARC takes part in a rental program through the NRA and Beeman. Air rifle competition starts January 25.

Rusty Kendle is the Nebraska State Junior Champion and Junior Olympic Winner.

Ron Roby, Brian Amerman, Tim Kollars, Jim Bourn and Fred Ayers presented with the IHMSA President's Team award for 1987. They were recommended for the IHMSA President's Award by Tim Nold, Piedmont, South Dakota, Region 8 Director.

Nold told Elgin Gates, President of IHMSA how the pistol silhouette range at Hoffland Range had literally been rebuilt during 1987 with a lot of improvements added to make Hoffland one of the better pistol silhouette ranges in Region 8.

June 4 the first NRA 100 shot 100 yd. Off-hand Highpower Rifle Match held with Pat Synak the match winner.

July 14 the Orgeon Trail Wagon Train made a stop on their way following the route of the original wagon trains of the 1800's. They spent the night parked at Hoffland.

Alliance Rifle Club puts on a blackpowder demonstration the evening of July 14 for the Wagon Train and Visitors.

"Doc & The Judge" Match is held on July 16 this year.

Match 1: Trapdoor Springfield was won by Jordan Amerman, Montrose, Colorado.

Match 2: Single Shot Rifle was won by Don Sheldon, Alliance.

Match 3: Repeating Rifle Match was won by Steve Licklitter, Alliance.

There were 36 shooters from nine Nebraska cities plus Colorado, Illinois and Wyoming. Four women competed in the Ladies Class with Helen McNeil of Springfield, Illinois winning the Class.

Region 8 IHMSA Championships held July 22, 23 and 24 at Hoffland Range. Tim Kollars took the 4-Gun aggregate. In three days 298 guns went through the big bore and rimfire firing line, setting a record. Over 90 shooters from Wyoming, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota—plus shooters from New Jersey and New South Wales, Australia compete. This was the biggest Region 8 Championship held up to 1988.

July 23 banquet at the Elks Club, catered by Kelly's, part of the 1988 IHMSA Region 8 Championships. Bert Stringfellow of Grand Island is speaker.

Stringfellow has been involved with IHMSA shooting since the beginning and vice president of IHMSA since 1977. He is a big game hunter and speaks on his Africa safari.

Nebraska State Junior Olympic Shooting Camp sponsored by the Nebraska State Rifle and Pistol Association is hosted by Alliance Rifle Club at Hoffland Range. The Camp lasted from June 17 to June 21 with eight juniors attending. Brenda Bayer, Scottsbluff is winner of the final match earning her the Nebraska state's invitation to the Junior Olympic Achievement Camp in Colorado Springs, Colorado September 28 through October 3. Rusty Kendle, Alliance, was just three points behind Brenda with a score high enough to also earn an invitation to the Camp from the NRA.

Rusty Kendle attends the Junior Olympic Achievement Camp at Colorado Springs, Colorado. At the final registered match the winner is Rusty with a score of 1125 out of 1200.

Camp Perry: Rusty Kendle and Michelle Brooks (Columbus) make up the Nebraska Whistler Boy Smallbore Team at Camp Perry. They come in 8th place which qualified them for an award. There were 64 teams in the competition. Scott Ducker and Rusty Kendle each have a perfect 400 score on a prone match. Gene Ducker is invited to be a coach at the Smallbore Junior Camp and also asked back to coach again for 1989.

Wendell Fairbanks shoots at the Palma Match in Australia. He was invited to be a member of the 16 member team. Fairbanks shot a perfect score in one of his matches which tied for first. He won a silver medal in the Captain Cook Match. The Palma Match started in 1876 and is the oldest international shooting match in the world.

1989

Ernie Vande Zande, gold medal winning smallbore rifle shooter, holds shooting clinic February 4. Due to bad weather it had to be moved from the Indoor Range to the court-

house. Vande Zande is from Vancouver, Washington.

March 5 Col. M.S. Gilchrist from the Army's Department of Civilian Marksmanship makes a trip to Alliance for a meeting with interested Junior leaders from around the state. He shows a video on Camp Perry and gives a presentation on the DCM.

Rusty Kendle is the 1989 Nebraska State Junior Champion. JORC (Junior Olympic Rifle Championship) is held in three locations—Lincoln, Kearney and Alliance—with 96 competitors.

In February the Nebraska State Rifle and Pistol Association receives an award from the NRA for their newsletter, *Nebraska Shooter*, edited by Gene and Janice Rader. The NRA Clubs and Associations Committee selected the NSR&PA to receive the 1988 State Association Achievement Award for Newsletter. The *Nebraska Shooter* also received the Outstanding Newsletter award for 1986.

April 28 - May 2 Dr. Wendell and Sarah Fairbanks and Glen Fiebig attend the 188th Annual Meeting of the NRA in St. Louis, Missouri. On Friday there is a full day State Association Workshop. Carolyn Walvoord, Nebraska State Rifle & Pistol Association Vice President and Glen Fiebig, State Membership Director attend and are presented a banner for the most outstanding State Association newsletter for 1988.

For the first time Cowboy Rifle Silhouette is shot at the April 23 IHMSA Pistol Silhouette Match. It is shot with a lever action rifle at the same targets and distance as the big bore pistol silhouettes.

Gary Anderson, Executive Director of General Operations of the NRA, and Nebraska's most illustrious competitive shooter, gives a shooting seminar to 25 members and friends of the Alliance Rifle Club April 17.

Anderson is an Olympic gold medal winner, holder of a World Championship in rifle shooting, a National Championship winner and winner of numerous other championships.

He presents Dr. Wendell Fairbanks with a Certificate of Appreciation plaque for the work Fairbanks did last year as Team Doctor for the U.S. Palma Team on their trip to Australia.

NRA Regional Smallbore Prone Championship June 3 and 4 at Hoffland Range with shooters from Nebraska, Wyoming and Colorado. The first Smallbore Regional Match held in this area. A Regional is just one step below a National Match. Match shot on the newly poured concrete firing positions.

Club Juniors attend matches at 1989 Camp Perry. Rusty Kendle took top overall honors in Sharpshooter Class of the National 3-Position Matches and received the "Frank Parsons Memorial" trophy.

Nebraska State NRA 3-Position Championship is held on September 9 and the State NRA Prone Championship is on September 10 at Hoffland.

The club purchases about 44 1/4 acres of land to enlarge Hoffland Range. Last payment made August 1, 1994. This will give enough room to put in a 1000 yd. highpower pit in the future.

Gary Anderson, two-time Olympic gold medalist in shooting and Executive Director of NRA General Operations, is in the area with his son to do some hunting. Anderson conducts a shooting clinic for the Alliance Smallbore Team on November 9. He does a clinic on the kneeling position to help the Alliance Panhandle Rifle League Team.

1990

Junior Olympic Rifle Championship: Nebraska State Match February 24 and 25 held at Lincoln, Kearney and Alliance. The JORC Match consists of 60 shots, 3-position smallbore with a total possible score of 600. The NRA Gold Medallion winner was Russell Kendle with a score of 567. The bronze medal went to Scott Ducker with a 551. The top State Team was the Alliance Aces with a team total of 2116. Team members were Rusty Kendle, Scott Ducker, Chris Mischnick and Wade Kendle.

Nebraska State Open Indoor 4-Position Championships held February 25 at Lincoln, Kearney and Alliance. Leon Dent, Chadron, winner.

March 24 and 25 is the first time a NRA Smallbore Rifle Sectionals is held at Alliance Indoor Range. Rusty Kendle won gold medals at 3-Position, 4-Position and Air Rifle.

Glen Fiebig is presented with a plaque for the Alliance Rifle Club at the Annual Nebraska State Rifle and Pistol Association Convention in Kearney. This award was given for outstanding achievement by a Nebraska Club.

All day shooting clinic held by top shooters from the U.S. Shooting Team from Colorado Springs, Colorado at the Indoor Range April 28. Bob Foth of the U.S. National Shooting team was there to run a workshop.

June 2 and 3 the NRA 3200 Smallbore Rifle Prone Regionals is held. Gene Ducker takes 1st Expert with 3145 and 179Xs.

June 22-24 IHMSA Nebraska State Big Bore and Rimfire Championships at Hoffland. Big Bore 4-Gun Aggregate went to Tim Kollars and Rimfire 4-Gun Aggregate went to Dean Scoggin, Scottsbluff, member of ARC.

Tim Kollars receives the Anschutz Pistol Award from IHMSA President Frank Scottto at the IHMSA Internationals in Texas. Kollars took first place Rimfire Unlimited.

Nebraska State Smallbore Championships at Hoffland Range:

- State Smallbore 3-Position September 8
Gene Ducker wins 1st Expert
- State Smallbore Prone September 9
Gene Ducker - State Champion

The "Doc & The Judge" Match was moved to October 6 this year for the first time. It is held on the first day of the Alliance Rifle Club Gun Show. From now on it is held at the same time as the Gun Show in the fall.

Matches this year are Trapdoor Springfield, Single Shot Rifle and Repeating Rifle. And new for this year is a Pistol Match. The pistol must be a revolver and the range is 25 yds.

There are 31 shooters with 76 entries. Shooters come from 11 different Nebraska cities and three Colorado cities.

December 1 and 2 a Shooting Seminar is given by William Krilling, Coach of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit at Ft. Benning, Georgia assisted by Steven Goff.

1991

Four Alliance Junior Rifle Club members attend National Rifle Matches and Junior National Smallbore Rifle Camp at Camp Perry July 19 - July 26. On July 24 Scott Ducker, Alliance and Jason Parker, Omaha represent the Nebraska State Rifle and Pistol Association in the National "Whistler Boy" team competition. There were 55 two-man teams from across the U.S. competing. Scott and Jason won the "Whistler Boy" trophy with a score of 1807 just three points ahead of the second place team.

Glen Fiebig takes job with the NRA. He is an Assistant Director of Development—Western States.

Club trys something new—IPSC/Action Pistol. (International Practical Shooting Confederation) Five matches are held at Hoffland and the September 8 match is at the Airport Range.

The 3200 NRA Regional Smallbore Rifle Conventional Prone Tournament is June 1 and 2. Grand Aggregate winner is Gene Ducker and Scott Ducker is 1st Expert Grand Aggregate winner.

July 12, 1991 Lanny Bassham comes to Alliance to give an all day Seminar. Bassham is the President of Mental Management Systems. Bassham is the 1976 Gold Medal winner at the Olympics, the 1974 and 1978 World Champion and he won many other titles and holds world shooting records.

Nebraska Multi-Location State Championships: Alliance Rifle Club holds the Smallbore and Hunting Rifle Silhouette Championships September 29.

On September 18 Lanny Bassham is in Alliance and he competes in all four matches at the "Doc and The Judge" Match at the Airport Range.

There are 35 shooters competing with 71 individual entries.

Match 1: Trapdoor Springfield

Don Sheldon, Match Winner

Match 2: Repeater Rifle

Brian Amerman, Match Winner

Match 3: Single Shot Rifle

Don Sheldon, Match Winner

Match 4: Pistol

Gene Sheldon, Match Winner

Lanny Bassham, 1st Class 1

1992

Membership of the Alliance Rifle Club is 174 family memberships in 1992.

The State Champion Team 3-Position at the Nebraska Junior Olympic Rifle Championships is the Alliance Aces: Scott Ducker, Brandy Ducker, Chris Mischnick and M. Sherlock.

Gene and Janice Rader receive the 1992 Outstanding Nebraskan Award from the Nebraska State Rifle and Pistol Association at their annual banquet.

June 6 and 7 is the NRA Smallbore Rifle Prone Regional match at Hoffland.

Nebraska State Championships at Hoffland:

- August 22 and 23 Outdoor Smallbore Rifle Prone and 3-Position Smallbore Rifle
- August 30 Highpower and Hunting Rifle Silhouette
- September 27 Smallbore and Hunting Rifle Silhouette

At Indoor Range: November 21 and 22 Nebraska State Smallbore Rifle Indoor Championship.

After seven years of hard work, planning, problem solving, donations of surplus railroad cars from Burlington Northern Railroad and help from many others—the 1000 yd. pit at Hoffland is finished.

1993

The State Champion Air Rifle Team at the Nebraska Junior Olympic Rifle Championships is the Alliance Aces: Scott Ducker, Brandy Ducker, H. See and J. Trimble

Erv Huber spends most of his weekends and vacation hauling water to Hoffland to care for the trees that have been planted on

Hoffland. His wife Lori and sons, Cory and Dustin help him with all the work. Planting trees on the range has been a club project that started in 1991.

In the fall a Handguns for Women class is held at the Indoor Airport Range for the fifth time. The class is offered through Community Education and taught by members of the Alliance Rifle Club. Instructors this year: Kathy Dye and Jim Moravek. Six women take the 1993 class. Approximately 40 women in the Alliance area have completed this course since 1989.

The Panhandle Rifle League is now down to four teams—Alliance, Crawford, Ft. Laramie and Scottsbluff. The League sponsors an 18 match season from October until March with a Shootoff Match March 17 at Mitchell, the home range of the Scottsbluff Team. Alliance Team placed four shooters in the top ten of the League this season—based on their average of matches shot during the season.

Membership in the Alliance Rifle Club is 205 family memberships in 1993.

1994

August 27 and 28 the Nebraska State Smallbore Rifle 3- and 4-Position Championships is held at Hoffland.

Royce Brown takes over the duties of Coach for the Alliance Junior Rifle Club. He had been an assistant coach to Gene Ducker and Robert Pickering for several years.

October 15 the “Doc & The Judge” Match is held. This time a Cowboy Shoot is added. It is limited to old-time cartridge pistols, rifles and shotguns.

An open forum on the new assault weapon ban law is held October 19. Speakers are Glen Fiebig, retired judge and Jim Moravek, attorney.

December 17 and 18 the Nebraska State 4-Position Championships take place at the Indoor Airport Range.

1997

The Alliance Junior Rifle Club Team of Rusty Girard, James Girard and Zachery Beals are the 1997 State Champion Team - Novice Prone at the Junior Olympic Rifle Championships.

August 24 the first Iron Man Match is held with 17 shooters competing in rifle, pistol and shotgun.

The match starts at the ARC Airport Range with two stages of cowboy action targets. Next stage is at the Alliance Trap Club—25 targets at 16 yds. Then to the Sporting Clay Range at the Sand Prairie Game Farm for a 50 shot stage with shotguns. Top Shooter at this first match is Stu Hardin.

The Iron Man Match is once a year until the last match is held on October 2, 2005.

June 19 Jenelle Johnson, inspector with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms gives a talk at the Elks Club for club members and other interested persons.

Summer—The Cowboy Action matches need more room at the Airport Range. Alliance Golf Course installed a lake and the club was able to get the excess dirt. This made it possible to add a 50 yd. range and safety berm at west end of the Indoor Range.

Dean Scoggin, Scottsbluff and long time ARC member, wins a trophy at the 7th Annual Matthew Quigley Match at Forsythe, Montana. There were 324 shooters competing.

1998

At the annual meeting in January, the ARC members vote to honor Glen Fiebig for his 44 years of service to the club. He was presented with a Marlin cowboy action rifle in .45 long colt as a fitting gift for “The Shooting Judge.”

A web site is started using Internet space provided by Gene and Peggy Sheldon. The web site is designed and set up by Gene and Janice Rader.

In the beginning the URL for it was:
<http://www.premaonline.com/~coltsaa>

1999

Junior Olympic Rifle Championship State Runner-Up Team in Smallbore 3-Position is the Alliance Aces: Ryan Miller, Shane Dye and Christopher Blasi.

July 25 first .50 BMG Match is held at Hoffland. Hoffland Range is one of only seven ranges in the U.S. where this cartridge may be safely fired.

Match is a total of 30 rounds over a two day period. Target is a 500 yd. target shot at 1000 yds. Shooting is done from a bench with a .50 cal. rifle and scope sights.

It is sponsored and run by the Fifty Caliber Shooters Association with the help of ARC members.

June 6 the Nebraska State troopers train at Hoffland Range using Ruger Mini-14 rifles under the supervision of Glen Fiebig.

2000

A railroad car is purchased for \$1500.00 and set up at the Airport Range to use for storage. Used during the Cowboy Action matches.

As the years go by new matches are added to the “Doc & The Judge” Match. In 1984 there was one match—Trapdoor Springfield

Rifle. In 2000 at the September 23 "Doc & The Judge" Match, the matches are:

Match 1: Trapdoor Springfield Rifle

Match 2: Single Shot Rifle

Match 3: Repeating Rifle

Match 4: Pistol

Match 5: Black Powder Cartridge Rifle

Match 6: Benchrest

2001

January 23 guests at the ARC Annual meeting are Ronald L. Grapes, president of the Nebraska Shooting Sports Assn. and Marvin Blevins, NRA rep for Nebraska and Kansas. Mr. Blevins discusses the NRA's Eddie Eagle program and the Friends of NRA program.

The first Cowboy Action match is held April 1 at the Airport Range.

Christopher Blasi and Ryan Miller compete in the National Junior Rifle Championships at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado March 29.

Christopher competes in the 3-Position Smallbore Rifle and Ryan shoots in the Air Rifle Matches. They were chosen to represent the State of Nebraska by their placement in the Nebraska State JORC matches held in Alliance, Broken Bow and Lincoln.

The first Mid-West BPCR (Black Powder Cartridge Rifle) Championship May 12 and 13 is held at Hoffland. There are 34 shooters for 55 entries.

Summer Projects: Concrete is poured in front of the storage box car at the 50 yd. Range at the Airport Range. Club members cast eight new concrete shooting benches for the 1000 yd. firing line at Hoffland Range. Concrete is also poured under the sunshade at Hoffland.

September 23—In order to raise funds to cover a portion of the Hoffland Range with heavy gauge steel and supported by steel girders to withstand the Nebraska winds, a raffle for a bull buffalo hunt is run. Drawing September 23 at the ARC Gun Show.

Winner of the raffle is Wayne Satern of Spencer, Iowa. Wayne is involved with the .50 BMG matches being held at Hoffland Range.

Steel cover is added over part of the Hoffland Range firing line.

2002

Ryan Miller wins 2002 Nebraska State JORC in January. This year the JORC was shot in Lincoln, Broken Bow and Alliance. Ryan shot the highest scores in smallbore rifle and air rifle. He represents the State of Nebraska at the JORC Finals March 27 - April 2 at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Ron White, NRA Certified Instructor holds a Handgun Instructors Class over two full weekends. Fifteen members take the class to learn to teach NRA's Class for Basic Pistol and Home Safety.

May 4 and 5 the 2nd Annual Mid-West BPCR Championship is hosted by Alliance Rifle Club at Hoffland Range. There are 48 shooters, representing eight states, making up 94 entries for the two-day event.

June 7, 8 and 9 the .50 BMG match is held at Hoffland. The match is run by the Fifty Caliber Shooters Association with help from Alliance Rifle Club members. Shooters from nine states take part in the competition with 37 guns registered.

.22 IPSC Matches held on the 3rd Sunday from November through April at the Indoor Range. Matches have been held the past four

years as a way to have something to do during the winter months.

Stages are shot using .22 pistols and rifles shooting at steel plates and paper targets.

New ventilation system is put in at the Indoor Range.

2003

At the January Annual Meeting a dues increase of \$10.00 is approved. This is the first increase of membership dues in 20 years. The \$10.00 increase is set aside in a special fund to purchase land for a new range.

May 3 and 4 Mid-West BPCR Championship. There are 42 shooters from eight states with 80 entries for the two-day match.

Weather conditions include high swirling winds, rain, hail and changing light conditions.

September 21 a drawing is done at the ARC Gun Show for the raffle held for a Buffalo hunt at Sandhills Properties. Virgil Nolda was 1st place winner of the buffalo hunt. The 2nd place prize was \$680 toward a Remington 700 rifle and 3rd place prize was \$240 toward a 10/22 Ruger rifle.

6th Annual State Champion Cowboy Action Match is held Labor Day weekend in Grand Island with 122 shooters from Nebraska and surrounding states attending. Four members of the Alliance Rifle Club attended. Sylvia Hilderbrand (Panhandle Kate) is the Nebraska Women's State Champion for 2003.

2004

At the January Annual Meeting, Glen Fiebig steps down as secretary/treasurer after holding this position for 40 years. Vickie Hielscher is elected secretary and Guy Hielscher treasurer.

May 1 and 2 is the Mid-West BPCR Championship.

August is the 1st Annual Sagebrush Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Match. This match is sponsored and run by Harlan and Wendy Sage from Sidney, Nebraska at Hoffland Range. Includes Long Range Match at 700, 800, 900 and 1000 yds. the first day and a Buffalo Match at steel targets the second day.

1st Howard Parker Memorial Shoot held October 3, 2004.

Howard Parker

Nov. 22, 1935 - July 20, 2004

There are 22 shooters: High Over All Winner is Chris Ford, 1st Gunfighter is Steve Miles, 1st Sheriff is Jim Ford and 1st Cowboy is Bruce Graham.

Sylvia Hilderbrand (Panhandle Kate) is the Nebraska State Women's Cowboy Action Champion for 2004.

2005

Alliance Rifle Club makes a \$700.00 gift to the Sallows Military Museum in Alliance. Funds for the donation were from several different shoots throughout the year.

May is the beginning of the new ARC web site with the domain name of www.AllianceRifleClub.com — Web Masters and designers are Gene and Janice Rader.

May 14 and 15 is the Mid-West BCPR Championship.

Sylvia Hilderbrand (Panhandle Kate) is the Nebraska State Women's Cowboy Action Champion for 2005.

The last Iron Man Match is held on October 2.

2006

May 6 and 7 is the Mid-West BCPR Championship.

Sylvia Hilderbrand (Panhandle Kate) is the Nebraska State Women's Cowboy Action Champion for 2006.

The Airport Outdoor Range closed on December 13 to all shooting except for scheduled matches.

2007

May 5 and 6 is the Mid-West BCPR Championship.

May 25 Alliance Rifle Club purchases land eight miles east of Alliance for new outdoor range. The range is named the Glen Fiebig Range to honor Glen Fiebig for his many years of service and contributions to the Alliance Rifle Club. Opened July 2007 for use of ARC members and their guests.

The first improvements are target butts made of railroad ties. These are set up at 50 yds., 100 yds. and 200 yds. to give Club members a place to practice and sight in. Two concrete benches, two other shooting benches and a shooting table are in place at the firing line.

Sylvia Hilderbrand (Panhandle Kate) is the Nebraska State Women's Cowboy Action Champion for 2007 to make it five in a row.

November 2 is the 1st Panhandle Friends of NRA Banquet and Auction. It was a big success! Proceeds go to underwrite programs administered by The NRA Foundation nationwide and in the State of Nebraska. Club receives an award from the NRA for hosting the 2nd largest first time Friends of NRA Banquet in the U.S.

Harlan Sage, sponsor of the Sagebrush Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Match held at Hoffland, donates a shelter awning for use on the firing line.

2008

March 3 the trees that have been planted on Hoffland Range are named the Erv Huber Memorial Forest to honor him for all the work he did in planting and caring for the trees added to Hoffland Range.

Panhandle Rifle League Shootoff in March won by the Alliance Team with Royce Brown shooting the highest score of 392 to win the match. The Alliance Team had the high win/loss for the 2007-08 season with 16 wins and 2 losses. They had the high season average of 1905.70. Crawford did not have a team.

March—Club receives a grant from the Box Butte County Tourism to use to pay for \$1500 of advertising for the ARC Gun Shows.

Frank Thompson, 2006 Alliance High graduate, competes at the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team trials for Shotgun Shooting. He took sixth place with 495 targets in Men's Skeet but did not qualify for a spot on the U.S. Olympic Team.

May 3 and 4 is the 8th Mid-West BPCR Championship held at Hoffland. A blizzard hit the area on May 1 (Thursday night) and all day on Friday. Schools in the Panhandle and into South Dakota were closed, most activities were cancelled and many of the highways were closed. The gate to Hoffland was snowed in and a detour had to be made through the west fence.

But there were still shooters here from nine states—Louisiana, South Dakota, Wyoming, North Dakota, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Montana and Nebraska. By Sunday the temperature was almost 70 degrees.

On the first day there were 46 competitors shooting the match and the last day there were 52 shooters.

FCSA (Fifty Caliber Shooters Assn.) established in 1985 to advance sporting uses of the .50 BMG cartridge holds from 10 to 15 organized 1000 yd. rifle matches in various locations across the U.S. FCSA has over 4000 members in 22 countries.

Matches held June 7 and 8 and September 13 and 14 are at Hoffland Range. The first .50 BMG match at Hoffland was July 25, 1999.

June 8 is the SASS Nebraska State Championship hosted by Platte Valley Gunslingers at Grand Island. There were 64 shooters competing. Sylvia Hilderbrand (Panhandle Kate) is the Nebraska State Women's Champ for the sixth year in a row and also placed 14th Overall.

Because of the Friends of NRA Banquet held November 2, 2007, the Club was able to apply for a grant. The biggest grant given in the Midwest is approved. The Club receives a grant from the Friends of NRA to put in a well and generator at the new Glen Fiebig Range.

In June the Club receives a check for \$10,382.40 from the Friends of NRA.

Word is received from the Nebraska Game and Parks that ARC has been given a grant for \$23,000. It is to be used for dirt work and improvements on the Glen Fiebig Range.

June 14 and 15 is the Matthew Quigley Buffalo Rifle Match at Forsyth, Montana. This is a long range rifle match using original or replica period firearms from the days of buffalo hunting. It is the largest shoot of its kind in the nation.

This year there were 601 competitors from 34 states and four foreign countries. ARC members competing at the 2008 Quigley

Match: Steve Lickliter, Joe Lickliter, Jim Bourn, Dean and Jean Scoggin and Harlan and Wendy Sage.

Improvements made to Glen Fiebig Range includes purchase of a 40 x 8 foot container to use for storage. Moved onto the range in June.

July 30 the new sign is erected on the Glen Fiebig Range. Purchased from Panhandle Fab. The shed that was at the 100 yd. Outdoor Range at the Airport Range is moved out to the new range along with the sign. It is placed next to the storage container.

Bob Engelhaupt, Steve Miles and Steve Lickliter make up the work party for getting the sign in place. An auger digs the holes for the poles and a crane is used to lower the sign in place. Once the sign was level, ten 80 lb. bags of concrete are mixed and put in the holes.

August 16 Dave Kime, Gordon, shots a perfect score at the Military Silhouette Match held at Hoffland. Shooting a semi-auto M-1A he hit 10 plates, 10 chicken, 10 pig, 10 turkey and 10 ram targets for a total of 50.

August 17 Hoffland Range is used by the South Dakota National Guard for a Military Training Day.

The 5th Annual BPCR Sagebrush Match is held at Hoffland August 23 and 24. Sponsored by Harlan and Wendy Sage, Sidney, Nebraska.

Saturday is the Long Range Match—40 rds. at steel targets at 700, 800 and 1000 yds.—10 shots at each target.

There are 100 shooters for this match. Jim Dibble and Jim Bourn (ARC member) each shoot 31 for top score. Next highest score was a 29 shot by Steve Lickliter (scope class), another ARC member—including a perfect score of 10 at 1000 yds.

The Buffalo Match is held on Sunday with 104 shooters. This match consists of 48 rds. at six steel targets (eight rds. per target). Six targets: 225 yd. coyote to 970 yd. bear. The 225 yd. target is shot offhand and the remaining targets are shot sitting using cross sticks.

At the Sunday match the top score of 39 is shot by Mike Alexander, followed by Jim Bourn with 38 and Steve Lickliter (scope class) with 38.

This is the largest number of competitors at a match held at Hoffland Range.

September 13 Nelson Wells, Inc. brings their equipment to Glen Fiebig Range and digs a well. This is possible because of the 2008 Friends of NRA grant. They had to drill down to 150 feet for the well.

The .50 BMG Match is hosted by ARC at Hoffland Range September 13 and 14. Eleven shooters take part in the Match with competitors from Nebraska, Colorado, North Dakota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Utah and Pennsylvania.

The September 20 - 21 Gun Show is the last one with Alan Tuck as Director. He has served as the ARC Gun Show Director since 1997. Annette Henkel will take over the duties of Gun Show Director.

October 6 a \$2500 grant is received from the NRA Range Grant. It will be used to build a 25 yd. pistol range at Glen Fiebig Range.

October 28 the Airport Indoor Range is closed 7 am to 6 pm weekdays for safety of construction crews on the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery. Outdoor ranges are closed.

November 7 is the 2nd Panhandle Friends of NRA Banquet at the Eagles Club. On November 6 a blizzard hit Alliance. It was so bad the schools closed and area roads closed.

Electricity is out but the Banquet went on as planned with 125 meals served.

The 2007 Banquet had a gross of \$30,506 and net of \$15,955 and the 2008 Banquet has a gross of \$28,200 and net of \$14,958.

2009

May 1, 2 and 3 is the 9th Mid-West BPCR Championship. There were 89 shooters the first day and 93 the second day.

May 31 the railroad car is moved off the Airport Range. It is donated to Stu Hardin, Gordon for use of Junior Trap Club.

June 1 a \$7500 Grant is received from the Friends of NRA. This will be used for dirt work at the Glen Fiebig Range.

July 14 Frank Thompson of Alliance took 3rd place at the International Skeet portion of the USA Shooting National Championships at Ft. Carson, Colorado.

Frank was on the three-man skeet team representing the US at the 2009 ISSF Shotgun World Championship in Maribor, Slovenia August 7-16. There were about 600 shooters from 70 countries competing. The US Team of Olympic Gold Medalist Vincent Hancock, 2004 Olympian Shawn Duloherly and Frank Thomson won the gold medal and set a new world record of 366 hits out of 375 targets.

The 6th Annual Sagebrush BPCR Match sponsored by Harlan and Wendy Sage of Sidney was held at Hoffland August 22 and 23. On Saturday there were 112 shooters and 119 shooters on Sunday.

August 16 a "First Shot" Ceremony is held at Glen Fiebig Range. ARC members and visitors were invited to check out the range improvements and witness Glen Fiebig shoot the official "first shot" at the range named in his honor.

Summer of 2009 Work at Glen Fiebig Range

The Fiebig Range is closed from May 27 until August 17 for dirt work and construction.

By July dirt work is completed on the 200 yd. and 200 yd. berms except for seeding. Dirt work also being done on the 25 yd. and 50 yd. berms. A concrete firing line for the 100 yd. and 200 yd. ranges is poured.

A 1250 gal septic tank for the restroom facility is buried and a concrete pad is poured on top of it for the restroom building. The building is constructed and put in place at Fiebig Range by the end of July.

The dirt work is seeded and 150 small square hay bales donated by Steve Benzel are delivered to the range and spread to help stabilize soil. The Cover Ranches donate big round bales for seed/ground cover.

Signs listing contact information and range rules added to the Fiebig Range sign.

The grant from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission was to be used for the 100 yd. and 200 yd. dirt work, restroom facility, seeding and signs. The work needed to be finished by the end of July. The Club was required to put in 200 hours of volunteer work to qualify for the Grant. By the end of July 397 hours of volunteer work had been logged.

During July a 1200 KW generator is purchased for use at Fiebig Range. In August a sprinkler system is installed at the 100 yd. and 200 yd. ranges to water the seeded areas.

In September the storage building at the Airport Range is moved to Fiebig Range.

Then target frames are made and put in place along the 100 and 200 yd. firing lines. These are made to hold a 24 x 24" cardboard target. This made it possible for members and visitors to set up targets and practice or sight in.

November 6 is the 3rd Annual Panhandle Friends of the NRA Banquet at the Alliance Eagles Club. It is hosted by the Alliance Rifle Club with a social hour, dinner and live auction.

November 8 there is an Open Day at Fiebig Range. Members and the public are invited to come and see all the improvements made to the range during the summer of 2009.